**4th grade Persuasive Letter Unit 4**

**November 19, 2012**

The majority of text that we access and our students will access is informational.

Persuasive Writing is most popular and influential kind of writing

readworks.org (online resource for short informational stories) you can search by grade, strategy, and topic (set up a free account to access stories)

PAT F, it is crucial that students understand this when writing. Teachers can model this when reading to help students understand PAT F. For example use the school newsletter, try to figure out the PAT F for each part of the newsletter.

Purpose .... Why

Audience....Who

Topic .... What point of view/opinion for example topic my bedtime and my opinion is that I should be able to set my own bedtime.

Form .... How

This unit addresses CCSS writing anchor standard 1. Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

Students must understand the form of an essay.

In Lucy Caulkins 3-5 Units of Study Lucy has paragraphing lessons in The books Launching, and Raising the Bar. The lessons are listed in the mid workshop share portion of the lessons.

Mentor Text Suggestion from Sandy Biondo:

Cross off the following texts because they are used at K-1 units Click Clack Moo Cows That Type I Wanna Iguana I Wanna New Room Don't let the pigeon drive the bus Don't let the pigeon stay up late

Sandy Biondo says to use more student and teachers texts rather than the "cutesy" narrative books that are listed under the mentor texts for unit 4

Immersion Phase

begins approx. 3-5 days before unit begins. If immersion cannot be done during readers workshop then add 3-5 days to the pacing if the writing unit.

During immersion teacher/students are always asking ....

what is a persuasive letter

what is the purpose

What Makes A good persuasive letter? What are the characteristics?

Introduction/Beginning

Body

Conclusion/ending

Crafting Techniques

Teacher is moving students from explorers of this genre of text to writers of this text

For every unit teachers should be saying to their students "What is your mentor text for this piece?" Students may imitate structure and craft of the mentor text.

Students do not write one piece and then thy are done. They either revise or start another piece along with practicing what you have been teaching them. ( football players never tell their coach during practice"I've already run this play, so I'm done with practice today") it's all about practicing!!!

Crucial to teach students "intentionality" that authors do things on purpose.

4th grade definition of persuasive letter "trying to convince someone to agree with your opinion/point of view by providing reasons."

The difference between personal essay and persuasive essay is that in a personal essay you are just stating your opinion with evidence, in the persuasive essay you state opinion with evidence and include a counter argument. in the persuasive unit you are trying to convince someone to agree with you, sway their thinking.

Students must provide evidence to support their opinions. Examples of kinds of evidence are personal experience, facts, observations, and events.

An idea shared is when creating anchor charts teacher quickly writes student responses on post its and place post its on chart paper and then teacher creates the anchor chart at another time rather than having students watch teacher write anchor chart. If teacher uses post it notes then they can be removed from chart for a sort.